

VZCZCXRO5211
PP RUEHFK RUEHKS0 RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #1674 2050334
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 240334Z JUL 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4803
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 5449
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 7778
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 2935
RUEHKS0/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 5966
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 9257
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0041
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2956
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 6683
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6349
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 001674

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - NORTH KOREA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Several Friday morning papers front-paged arrangements being made between the U.S. and Japan for President Obama to visit Japan in mid-November.

¶2. "Do Not Overlook Signs from U.S." On recent remarks by DOS officials, including Secretary of State Clinton and Assistant Secretary of State Campbell, that Washington may offer an 'attractive comprehensive package' to Pyongyang in return for its complete denuclearization, the liberal Asahi editorialized (6/24): "This message from the U.S. administration presents an opportunity to achieve a breakthrough in the ongoing impasse in the Six-Party Talks. To prevent the current crisis, in which North Korea is recklessly pursuing nuclear development, from further deepening, any opportunity to jumpstart negotiations on North Korean problems must be seized.... We would like to see China playing a greater role in order to help the U.S. and North Korea find a chance for full-fledged negotiations in the future. Improvements in North Korea's ties with the U.S. hold the key to a smooth power transition. North Korea should not overlook this opportunity."

¶3. "North Korea Has No Friends" The conservative Sankei insisted in an editorial (7/24): "Myanmar's government, which is apparently involved in military cooperation with North Korea, promised the U.S. it would enforce UN sanctions on North Korea. It has become clear, as Secretary of State Clinton stated, that 'North Korea has no friends left.' There is no other option for North Korea but to comply with UN resolutions and swiftly return to the Six-Party Talks in order to extricate itself from international isolation. The DPRK leadership should correct its attitude with that in mind."

¶4. "North Korea's Hard-line Stance Continues" On the recent AEESEAN Regional Forum (ARF) meeting in Phuket, Thailand, in which the North Korean nuclear issue was one of the high agenda items, the business-oriented Nikkei wrote (7/24): "North Korea's hard-line position has remained unchanged and the U.S. is ratcheting up the

pressure on it. With the U.S., Japan, and South Korea having failed to convene 'five-party talks' on the margins, the ARF meeting left the impression that the road toward preventing a crisis is becoming even rougher."

ZUMWALT